

**MINUTES OF MEETING
COMMON COUNCIL
CITY OF MONTICELLO
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2008**

The regular meeting of the Common Council, City of Monticello, Indiana was held on Monday, September 15, 2008 at 6:00 pm. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Jason Thompson and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance by Water Superintendent Rod Pool.

Roll call by Clerk Treasurer Liz Oilar was answered by Mayor Jason Thompson, Council Members Jim Mann, Grace Oilar, Bill Smith, and Eric Storm, and City Attorney George Loy. Council Member Dave Kelly was absent due to back surgery.

There being no additions, deletions, or corrections to the minutes of the meeting on September 2, 2008, a motion was made by Council Member Bill Smith, seconded by Council Member Grace Oilar, to approve the minutes as presented. Four ayes, motion carried.

Citizen Participation

Ken Kersey stated that semi trucks are parking in between the two entrances of McDonald's. And he has concern for traffic at the school due to the construction, and school kids crossing the highway to go to McDonalds. Mayor Thompson told him we have been in discussion with INDOT about a crosswalk for the students, moving the flashing light, and some new markings. He will address the no parking for semi's with INDOT the next time he sees them, and the construction project will need to be tolerated until completed. Ken would like it to be promoted to watch out for handicapped scooters, make sure they use the sidewalks where available, and have a flag on them for their own personal safety.

Larry Sanson asked about the Neighborhood Watch in the City. Mayor Thompson stated that we needed to get a Neighborhood Watch in place. Then we can put up signs to indicate we have a neighborhood watch. Council Member Eric Storm is working with Police Chief Curt Blount to get this program started. Mr. Sanson also has concerns with Railroad Street and the Garden Club flower beds. He has concerns because there are no sidewalks for pedestrians. He also asked about the intersection on Railroad and Washington. Mayor Thompson has addressed his concerns with INDOT and they will be painting markings on the road at these intersections, and they have put up no parking on the west side of Railroad Street.

Department Heads Reports

Police Chief Curt Blount stated that his department is working on two large communication grants. There has been a shipping malfunction with the computers they expected to have in their police cars by now. Everything else is going smoothly.

Street Superintendent Doug Roberts stated that everything is normal for this time of year. He has started on the sidewalk project and the asphalt will begin in a few weeks. He would like to include Heritage Road, but is unsure because of certain issues there. His department is just normal busy.

Water Superintendent Rod Pool stated that his department has had a couple of unusual leaks. He hopes this is not an indicator of how the winter will be for his department. They will be flushing hydrants, Monday through Friday, next week.

Wastewater Superintendent Joe Mowrer stated that he was glad we lucked out on all the rain that was predicted for us. He is about done with his National Homes income survey. Everything else is normal.

Park Superintendent Mitch Billue state that he and Joe Mowrer have gone out and accessed the drainage issue at Voigt Park. They are looking into getting that problem fixed. He is working on a grant funding the skate park. The pool is completely closed down. They are just maintaining the parks at this time.

Fire Chief Shane Swaim stated that everything is going well, business as usual. They have received \$5000.00 from Lake Shafer Property Owners Association to help refurbish the boat. New billing company is going well. He is still looking into a new aerial truck. He has looked at demos. He needs a commitment from council that the City is going to buy an aerial truck so he can go back to the township trustees and they will then purchase the City a new pumper truck. The Council verbally committed to buying an aerial truck.

Committee Reports

Council Members Eric Storm and Grace Oilar will meet with City Attorney George Loy to discuss the nuisance ordinance.

Council Member Jim Mann asked how tall the grass had to be in violation, and it is seven inches.

Citizen Larry Sanson stated he has had several good comments on the 911 Ceremony.

Adoption Budget Ordinance 2008-16

City Attorney George Loy stated that notice of the 2009 proposed Budget has been published as required by law. We had our required public hearing last meeting, September 2, 2008. Budget Ordinance 2008-16 incorporates Budget Forms 4A and 4B. Council will need to suspend the rules as this is the first reading. Board of Works Member Phil Vogel had a few questions about the Budget, which were answered. Council Member Jim Mann made the motion to suspend the rules in order to adopt Budget Ordinance 2008-16, seconded by Council Member Grace Oilar. Four ayes, motion carried. Council Member Jim Mann made the motion to pass Budget Ordinance 2008-16 on the first reading, seconded by Council Member Grace Oilar. Four ayes, motion carried.

Determination of Date for Trick or Treat Night

Council Member Bill Smith stated that all the Council has talked to a lot of citizens about this issue. People want Trick or Treat night to be dark outside. Council Member Bill Smith made the motion to have Trick or Treat night on Friday, October 31, 2008, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., seconded by Council Member Grace Oilar. Four ayes, motion carried.

Consideration of Ball Corporation Tax Abatement Compliance with Statement of Benefits

Ross Rittberg stated that Ball Corporation is introducing a new line of 16 oz. aluminum cans. They are asking for a ten year tax abatement in the amount of \$13,563.00. City Attorney George Loy addressed the Council and told them that in 2005 they passed a tax abatement

Resolution designating the Ball Corporation area as an economic revitalizing area for the purpose of new equipment. That was a ten year designation and the Council at that time authorized tax abatement for new equipment for a ten year period. Ball has now submitted their Form SB1 for the Council's consideration. On the second page is the determination for the Council's consideration tonight. Council Member Grace Oilar made the motion to adopt the resolution and approve Ball Corporation's SB1 Statement of Benefits granting them the tax abatement, seconded by Council Member Bill Smith. Four ayes, motion carried. November 15, 2008 is National Recycle Day. Ball Corporation recycles aluminum cans and they give the proceeds to the parks department. They are a great employer in Monticello.

Consideration of Rezoning Ordinance 2008-17; Vicki Hettinger, 446 Turpie Street and 610 N Second Street, R2 to R3

Vicki Hettinger addressed the Council and explained that last Monday she went to Area Plan and asked for a request to rezone at these properties. She needs a written commitment from the Council. City Attorney George Loy told the Council that the written commitment are conditions attached to a rezoning if the Council chooses to grant it and it will become a part of the rezoning. She explained the background of her request to rezone. There was much discussion by the Council and Vicki as to why these properties needed to be designated as an R3. Council Member Jim Mann made the motion to approve Ordinance 2008-17, seconded by Council Member Eric Storm. Two ayes, three nays. Motion did not carry.

Accounts Payable

Council Member Grace Oilar made the motion to approve the Accounts Payable as presented, seconded by Council Member Bill Smith. Four ayes, motion carried

Council Member Eric Storm asked about the sign the Faith Covenant Church wants to put on Main Street. Mayor Thompson stated that they have talked to Street Superintendent Doug Roberts, City Attorney George Loy, and himself, and our City ordinance has no off premise signs.

There being no further business, meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

Liz Oilar
Clerk Treasurer